

## CLAIMS

1. A method of updating the location of a plurality of mobile stations (107) in a moving craft or vehicle, wherein a common terminal (103) in the craft or vehicle provides a communication interface between the mobile stations (107) and a satellite communication system (101), characterised by the steps of:

- A) transmitting an initial location updating message to the satellite system (101) each time a mobile station (107) is attached to the common terminal (103), wherein the initial location updating message includes an identity of the common terminal (103) and an identity of the attached mobile station(107),
- B) storing in the satellite system (101) information on the mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103) based on the transmitted initial location updating message, and
- C) transmitting a location updating message from the common terminal (103) to the satellite system (101) including the identity of the common terminal (103),

wherein the satellite system (101) can derive the new location for each of the attached mobile stations (107) based on the location updating message transmitted in step C) and the information stored in step B).

2. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that the location updating message of step C) is transmitted when the common terminal (103) enters a new location area, wherein the location updating message is valid for all mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

3. A method according to claim 1, characterised in that the location updating message of step C) is transmitted periodically, wherein the location updating message is valid for all mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

4. A method according to any of claims 1 - 3, wherein the common terminal (103) supports mobile stations according to the GSM standard, characterised in that the identity of the common terminal (103) is an IMSI of the common terminal (103) and the identities of the attached mobile stations (107) are IMSIs of the respective attached mobile stations (107).

5. A method according to any of claims 1 - 4, characterised in that the mobile stations (107) are attached to the common terminal (103) by using any of: a wireline connection, an Infrared (IR) connection and a Bluetooth™ connection.

6. A system for updating the location of a plurality of mobile stations (107) in a moving craft or vehicle, the system comprising a satellite communication system (101) and a common terminal (103) in the craft or vehicle for providing a communication interface between the mobile stations (107) and the satellite system (101), characterised in that:

- the common terminal (103) comprises means for transmitting an initial location updating message to the satellite system (101) each time a mobile station (107) is attached to the common terminal (103), wherein the initial location updating message includes an identity of the common terminal (103) and an identity of the attached mobile station (107),
- the satellite system (101) comprises means for storing information on the mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103) based on the initial location updating message, and that

- the common terminal (103) further comprises means for transmitting a location updating message to the satellite system (101) including the identity of the common terminal (103),

wherein the satellite system (101) can derive the new location for each of the attached mobile stations (107) based on the transmitted location updating message from the common terminal (103) and the stored information on the mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

7. A system according to claim 6, characterised in that the common terminal (103) transmits the location updating message when entering a new location area, wherein the location updating message is valid for all mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

8. A system according to claim 6, characterised in that the common terminal (103) transmits the location updating message periodically, wherein the location updating message is valid for all mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

9. A system according to any of claims 6 - 8, wherein the common terminal (103) supports mobile stations according to the GSM standard, characterised in that the identity of the common terminal (103) is an IMSI of the common terminal (103) and the identities of the attached mobile stations (107) are IMSIs of the respective attached mobile stations (107).

10. A system according to any of claims 6 - 9, characterised in that the mobile stations (107) are attached to the common terminal (103) by using any of: a wireline connection, an Infrared (IR) connection and a Bluetooth™ connection.

11. A common terminal (103) for updating the location of a plurality of mobile stations (107) in a moving craft or vehicle, wherein the common terminal (103) provides an interface between the mobile stations (107) and a satellite communication system (101), characterised in that the common terminal (103) comprises:

- means for transmitting an initial location updating message to the satellite system (101) each time a mobile station (107) is attached to the common terminal (103), wherein the initial location updating message includes the identity of the common terminal (103) and the identity of the attached mobile station (107), and
- means for transmitting a location updating message from the common terminal (103) to the satellite system (101) comprising the identity of the common terminal (103) when a location update is required.

12. A common terminal (103) according to claim 11, characterised in that the common terminal (103) transmits the location updating message when entering a new location area, wherein the location updating message is valid for all mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

13. A common terminal (103) according to claim 11, characterised in that the common terminal (103) transmits the location updating message periodically, wherein the location updating message is valid for all mobile stations (107) currently being attached to the common terminal (103).

14. A common terminal (103) according to any of claims 11 - 13, wherein the common terminal (103) supports mobile stations according to the GSM standard, characterised in that the

identity of the common terminal (103) is an IMSI of the common terminal (103).

15. A common terminal (103) according to any of claims 11 - 14, characterised in that the mobile stations (107) are attached to the common terminal (103) by using any of: a wireline connection, an Infrared (IR) connection and a Bluetooth™ connection.